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From: Maier, Brent

**Sent:** Tue 1/26/2016 10:31:19 PM

Subject: U.S. EPA Press Release: Henderson Selected to Boost Downtown Revitalization through

Local Foods, Local Places Initiative

## Dear Colleagues:

The following press release is being issued today by the EPA Region IX press office. If you have questions or need any additional information, please give me a call.

Regards,

**Brent Maier** 

Congressional Liaison Telephone: 415.947.4256



For Immediate Release: January 26, 2016

Media Contact: Michele Huitric, huitric.michele@epa.gov, 415-972-3165

## Henderson Selected to Boost Downtown Revitalization through Local Foods, Local Places Initiative

Henderson the only Nevada city selected for federal partnership

**SAN FRANCISCO** – Today, on behalf of the White House Rural Council, six federal agencies joined to <u>announce</u> that the City of Henderson will participate in a <u>Local Foods</u>, <u>Local Places</u> initiative to strengthen its downtown revitalization efforts. Henderson is one of 27 communities, and the only one in Nevada, selected to receive technical assistance to increase economic opportunities for local farmers and related businesses, create vibrant places, and promote childhood wellness by improving access to healthy local food.

"Local Foods, Local Places helps people access healthy local food and supports new businesses in neighborhoods that need investment," said EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy. "The program is good for the environment, public health and the economy. By helping bring healthy local food to market and offering new walking and biking options, Local Foods, Local Places can help improve air quality, support local economies, and protect undeveloped green space."

The City of Henderson will receive technical assistance to develop a food access plan that connects key community areas and offers residents healthy, convenient alternatives for accessing food, work, school, and play throughout the downtown area. This work will support EPA's Making a Visible Difference in Communities effort in the Las Vegas Valley, which is focused on advancing the region's new Southern Nevada Strong plan.

The selected communities were chosen from more than 300 applicants. Each Local Foods, Local Places partner community works with a team of experts who help community members recognize local assets and opportunities, set goals for revitalizing downtowns and neighborhoods, develop an implementation plan, and identify targeted resources from the participating federal agencies to help implement those plans.

Local Foods, Local Places is a partnership among the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Transportation, the Appalachian Regional Commission, and the Delta Regional Authority. The initiative was launched in 2014 and has already helped 26

communities make a difference in people's lives.

Local Food, Local Places is one of the administration's community-based initiatives in action across the country. In these places federal experts are working side by side with residents and local leaders to create customized solutions; bolstering coordination across agencies and improving how we interact with communities as a 'one Government' partner; and relying on valuable data to help inform solutions and evaluate what is working and what is not.

A complete list of communities participating in the Local Food, Local Places Initiative can be found at <a href="http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/local-foods-local-places-summary-reports">http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/local-foods-local-places-summary-reports</a>

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**Brent Maier** 

Congressional Liaison

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